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**Leaders Inch Closer to Replacing the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall**

SEATTLE – State Transportation Secretary Doug MacDonald and Mayor Greg Nickels presented new traffic and cost data on the replacement options for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall today. Options under consideration now include rebuilding the existing viaduct, replacing the viaduct with a new viaduct or tunnel, replacing the viaduct with a bypass tunnel and new surface Alaskan Way, and removing the viaduct and building a new Alaskan Way to handle all SR 99 traffic.

"The five plans presented today give us real choices about the future replacement of the viaduct. It's crucial for WSDOT and the City to keep moving and for the public to let us know what they think about these possibilities," said Secretary Doug MacDonald.

Engineers from the City of Seattle and the Washington State Department of Transportation presented five replacement options, ranging from \$2.5 to \$4.1 billion and outlined the features of each one. Based on the findings, one conclusion was clear - more money is needed to build the options that move more automobiles and increase traffic flow. For example, the most expensive option, the tunnel plan, moves the most vehicles in the shortest amount of time.

"I am pleased to see us moving forward in the environmental review process," said Mayor Greg Nickels. "As we continue to study these options, we must remember that the sooner we replace the viaduct and seawall, the sooner we address a major public safety and economic threat."

*For more information visit WSDOT's online site: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct) or call the project hotline at 206-269-4421.*

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